



THINK ON THESE THINGS..... (our contributor today is Jacqui Knight)

Reading: Luke 24:28-32

28As they came near the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther; 29but they held him back, saying, "Stay with us; the day is almost over and it is getting dark." So he went in to stay with them. 30He sat down to eat with them, took the bread, and said the blessing; then he broke the bread and gave it to them. 31Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight. 32They said to each other, "Wasn't it like a fire burning in us when he talked to us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?"

Reflection:

It has long puzzled me why the couple who were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus did not recognize Jesus when he joined them. One explanation is that they were so wrapped up by their own grief that they did not look up at him. A similar explanation may be given as to why Mary Magdalene did not recognize Jesus outside the empty tomb. John in his Gospel says she was crying. Tears can blind one's sight. Had these two also been crying? Although the women reported that the angels told them that Jesus was alive they just could not believe it was true.

Do we also fail to see Jesus, to recognize him in situations where we do not expect him? The last few weeks have been very strange. We may be frightened, feeling lost and lonely yet holding on to the faith that Jesus is there with us in our turmoil. I would venture to say he is very visible in so many ways. He is there in the doctors, nurses, paramedics and all the frontline carers in hospitals, medical centres and residential homes. Also in the delivery drivers, refuse collectors, mail personnel, farmers and food producers and all those keeping services going.

On a personal level I see him in the neighbours who have so readily offered help and have added items for us when they have a supermarket delivery. Then there's been the surprise 'drop offs' and those who would not accept payment for handmade face masks, food, milk, fruit and chocolate. In the many phone calls and emails to check how we are and to exchange news, Jesus has been there. The two sitting down to eat recognized Jesus in the action of breaking bread. It is in the many actions occurring today that Jesus may be recognized. You will have your own examples.

Breath-Prayer for Today: Jesus may we be enabled today to see you in the actions of all those around the world who are seeking to bring healing and relief to others.